

HA-1355

1856

Esley-Dean House
212 S. Bond Street
Bel Air
Private

A very surprising house to find, the Esley-Dean House is the only house built in the 1850's still standing in Town. It differs only in interior details from the 1825 Graham-Crocker House (30 N. Main) or the Dallam-Lee House, built in 1835, on Moores Mill Road. Houses built in the late 1860's and early 1870's (before the advent of the front gable) had steeper pitched gable roofs and tended to have one room and a hall in the main block rather than two.

The house was built by Nathan Dean, Bel Air cabinet maker and undertaker who in 1885 moved the house at 125 E. Broadway and added matching two story bay windows to the facade and gave it a mock-mansard roof as well.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

HA-1355
1313555504

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Esley-Dean House
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
212 S. Bond Street 1st
CITY, TOWN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Bel Air
STATE VICINITY OF
Maryland COUNTY
Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: boarding house

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Frederick L. Hodous Telephone #: 838-6221
STREET & NUMBER
335 Kenmore Avenue
CITY, TOWN STATE, zip code
Bel Air Maryland 21014

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, LIBER #: 697
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Harford County Courthouse Folio #: 208
STREET & NUMBER
Main Street
CITY, TOWN STATE
Bel Air Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
DATE
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN STATE
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

7 DESCRIPTION

NA-1355

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR
☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED ?

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This three bay, two and a half story, gable roofed house is at 212 S. Bond Street in the Town of Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. It is unusually deep for Bel Air and compares to the Graham-Crocker House on N. Main Street in style. The house is a double pile with a two story gable roofed ell to the rear (west) and a single story shed roofed addition behind that. The two story ell, lower than the second story in the main block, is probably not original, but it was added before 1904.

The tin shed roof of the front (east) porch is carried on plain square posts. The entrance is in the north bay of the front elevation. The single pane over panel door has a transom and three pane over panel sidelights. An entrance on the north side is in the east bay of the two story addition. It has a single bay shed roof on posts as a porch. The windows are 6/6 in plain surrounds, even the gable windows.

The interior of this little house is severely plain: plain woodwork and no fireplaces, although whether the lack of fireplaces is original is anybody's guess. Since it is a boarding house, only selected rooms were available for inspection, but two of the downstairs rooms, the back room in the main block, probably the dining room, and the room behind that have stove chimneys in the west walls with little mantellike shelves. A house built for heating stoves only is perhaps unusual in Bel Air in the 1850's, but there are too few remaining houses from that period to hazard a guess. It is possible to say that only tenant houses and workingmen's housing was built without at least a parlor fireplace "for show" between 1870 and 1900. Since Dean was a cabinetmaker the lack of wood art is surprising.

The main block has a side hall (north) and two rooms, probably parlor and dining room. The staircase rises between the north wall of the dining room and the north wall of the house. It does not dog-leg precisely, but the top four steps turn to meet the upstairs hall. A plain balustrade with a slender turned newel protects the upstairs hall from the stair well. The dining room has folding chairs, a piano, and a lecturn. It is used for religious services.

The small two story west addition was probably the kitchen originally. It probably had a shed roof until the low ceiling bathroom was added upstairs. At that time the present rear shed addition was probably added. The former kitchen is now Reverend Bosley's bed-sitting room. The shed addition is the kitchen. There are five rooms and a bath on the second floor. One of the rooms is a small chamber west of the bath, that and the bath being in the west addition. One large room occupies the attic level, reached by an enclosed, twisting, absolutely treacherous stair over the main staircase.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

HA-1355

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1856

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This small house is one of five remaining pre-Civil War houses in Bel Air. Its ample width testifies to the fact that it was built before the Victorian L-shaped house with a front gable style, Bel Air's most common survival, became popular. This house is one of three structures remaining in Bel Air associated with Nathan Dean, the cabinet-maker - undertaker. The house Dean remodeled and lived in between 1885 and 1906 is at 125 E. Broadway. He moved this house back and built the distinctive front elevation. The store he built in 1871 to house his funeral parlor and furniture store is at 13 N. Main Street. It now houses the Bel Air Photography Studio.

Dean built this house, or at least the front part of it, on land he purchased from Thomas Hays, probably paying installments. The house appears on the 1858 map, but Dean only received a deed in 1862 after the court ordered Hays's executors to give him the deed (13/263). Dean sold the property in 1864 for \$1500 to William Maulsby who held it in trust for Hannah E. Hamilton (15/287). It must have been a rental property, for the 1878 Map lists a G(eorge?) N. Ewing living there.

After an equity case between William Pinkney Hamilton and Sarah Yellott and others, the trustee sold the property to Frances Esley and M. Annie Esley in 1896 (88/369). They sold it to Robert E. Esley in 1899 for \$1000 (98/370). By 1904 the house had arrived at its present shape as the Sanborn Map of that year shows. About that time Robert Esley married. He and his young family lived there until he built the house at 5 S. Hickory where his daughter still lives (1909). He sold this property to Lillie Sevenice Esley in June 1908 (125/48), probably living there until the house on Hickory was completed.

Miss Esley sold the house to Edna (Mrs. John) Wiker in 1915 (150/38). In 1920 the house was assessed at \$1350. After Mr. Wiker died, Mrs. Wiker married Joseph C. Hands. In 1961 Mrs. Hands sold to Peter Schafer (566/325). Mr. Hands was dead. In 1965 the Schafers sold this house and the one next door to the south to the present owner, Frederick L. Hodous, a local dentist.

The house is now run by Reverend Bosley as a religious boarding house for men.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1858, 1878 Map
 1904, 1930 Sanborn Map
 Bel Air Tax Assessment, 1920

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property occupies parcel #1223 in the Town of Bel Air, 75' x 300'

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marilynn Larew, Architectural Historian

25 October 1979

ORGANIZATION

Town of Bel Air

DATE

838-8700

STREET & NUMBER

39 Hickory Avenue

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST 21 STATE CIRCLE SHAW HOUSE ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401 HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FIELD SHEET Individual Structure Survey Form		SURVEY NUMBER: HA-1355 NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER: UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Easting/Northing U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP: PRESENT FORMAL NAME:	
COUNTY: Harford TOWN: Bel Air		ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME: Esley-Dean House	
LOCATION: 212 S. Bond		PRESENT USE: boarding house ORIGINAL USE: private residence ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:	
COMMON NAME: House		BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:	
FUNCTIONAL TYPE: private residence		PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE: Excellent() Good(X) Fair() Poor()	
OWNER: Frederick L. Hodous ADDRESS: 335 Kenmore Avenue Bel Air		THEME: Architecture STYLE: Vernacular	
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Yes() No() Restricted(X)		DATE BUILT: 1856	
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local(X) State() National()			
GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Structural System 1. Foundation: Stone(X) Brick() Concrete() Concrete Block() 2. Wall Structure A. Wood Frame: Post and Beam() Balloon() B. Wood Bearing Masonry: Brick() Stone() Concrete() Concrete Block() C. Iron() D. Steel() E. Other: 3. Wall Covering: Clapboard() Board and Batten() Wood Shingle() Shiplap() Novelty() Stucco() Sheet Metal() Aluminum() Asphalt Shingle(X) Brick Veneer() Stone Veneer() Bonding Pattern: Other: 4. Roof Structure A. Truss: Wood() Iron() Steel() Concrete() B. Other: 5. Roof Covering: Slate() Wood Shingle() Asphalt Shingle() Sheet Metal() Built Up() Rolled() Tile() Other: 6. Engineering Structure: 7. Other: Appendages: Porches(X) Towers() Cupolas() Dormers() Chimneys(X) Sheds(X) Ells(X) Wings() Other: Roof Style: Gable(X) Hip() Shed() Flat() Mansard() Gambrel() Jerkinhead() Saw Tooth() With Monitor() With Bellcast() With Parapet() With False Front() Other: Number of Stories: 2½ Number of Bays: 3 Approximate Dimensions: 20' x 55'			
THREAT TO STRUCTURE: No Threat() Zoning() Roads() Development(X) Deterioration() Alteration() Other:		LOCAL ATTITUDES: Positive() Negative() Mixed() Other:	

Entrance Location: South Bond

NA-1355

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

windows 6/6
entrance in N bay front (e)
1 pane over panel door
transom & 3 pane over panel sidelights
front porch, tin roof on plain posts
2 story ell to rear (w) with 1 story shed addition
behind that

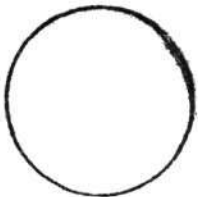
RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

pre-civil war house c. 1857
(1 of 5 left)

REFERENCES:

MAP: (Indicate North in Circle)



SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

Open Lane()Woodland()Scattered Buildings()
Moderately Built Up()Densely Built Up()
Residential(X)Commercial(X)
Agricultural()Industrial()
Roadside Strip Development()
Other:

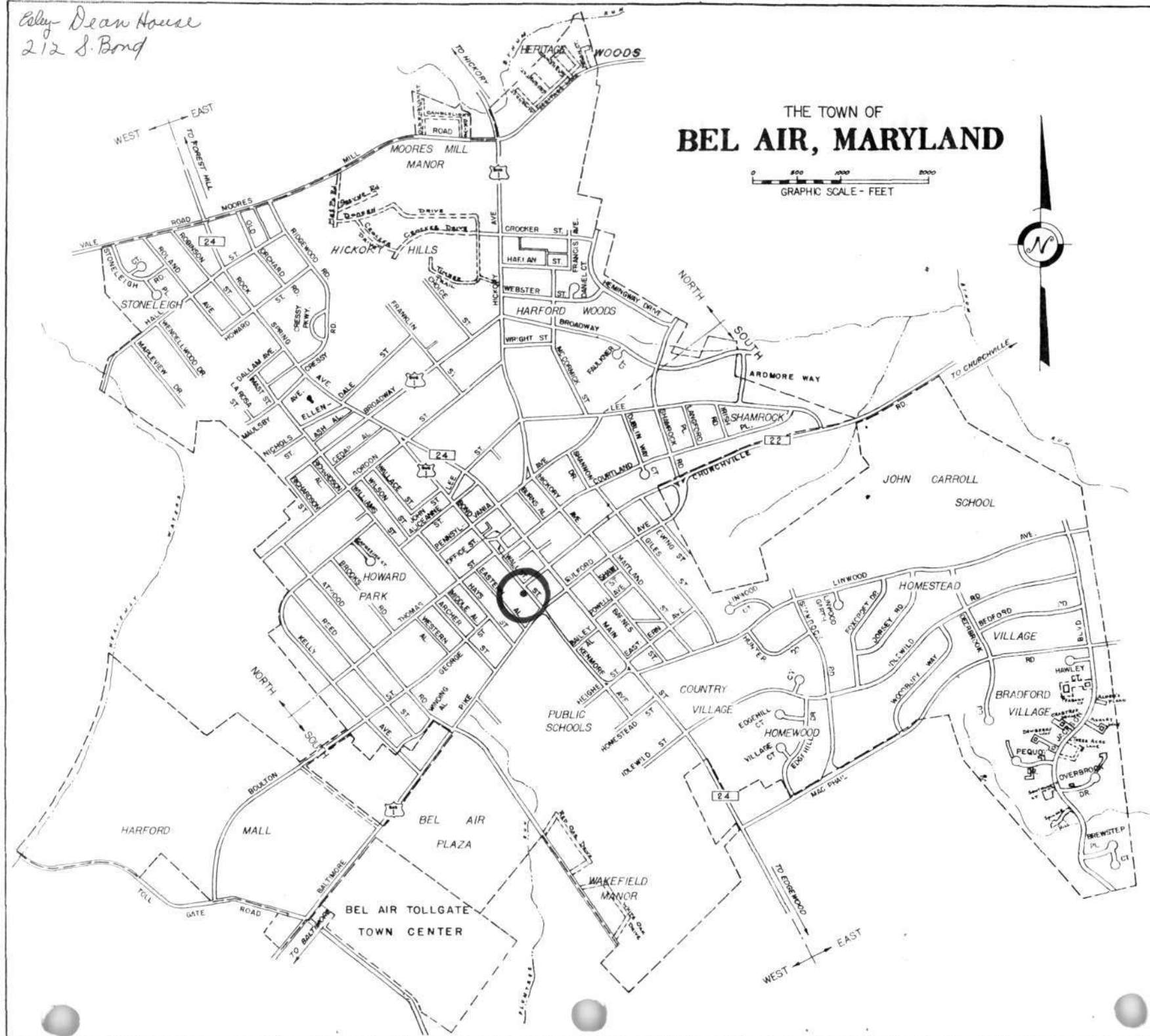
Marilynn Larew

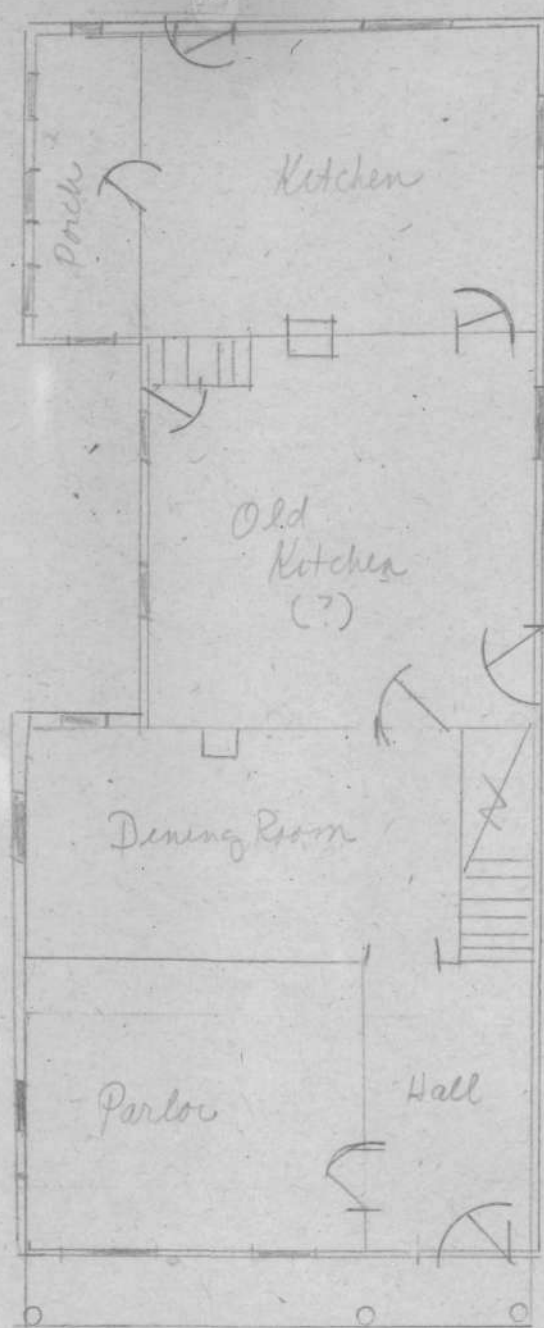
RECORDED BY:
Town of Bel Air

ORGANIZATION:
19 October 1979

DATE RECORDED:

Esley Dean House
212 S. Bond





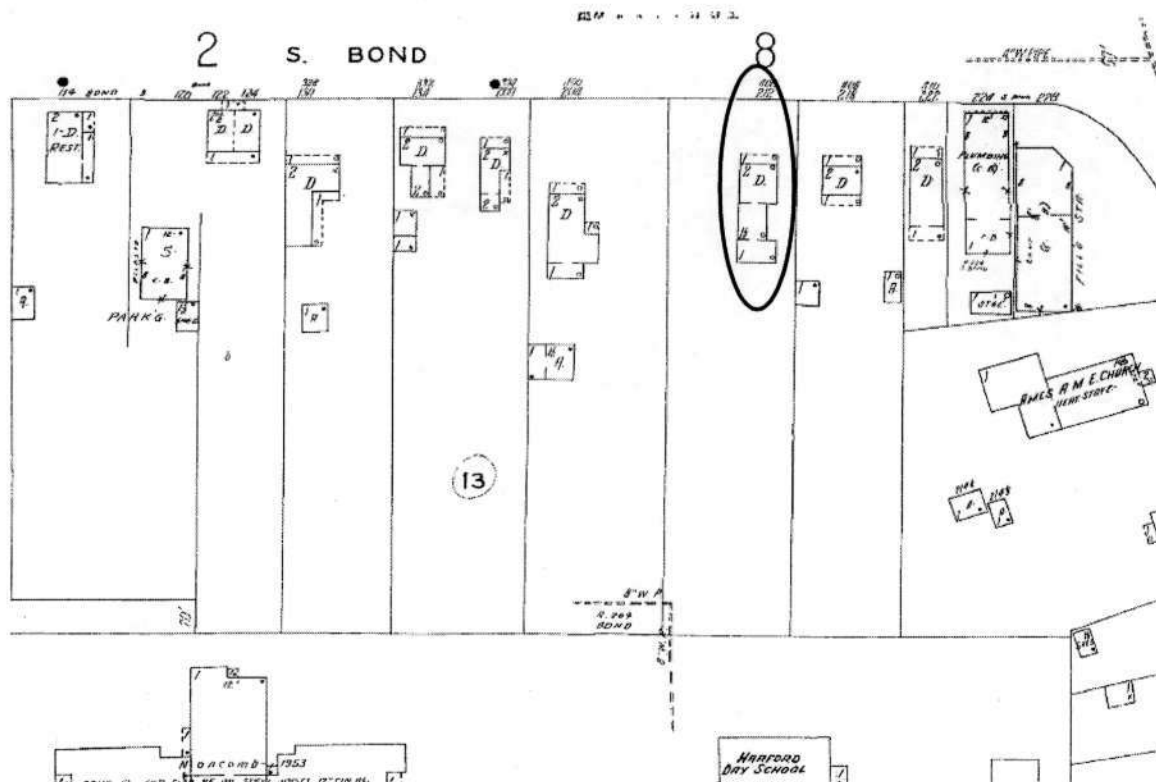
M. LAREW
1979

ESLEY-DEAN HOUSE
212 S. BOND
BEL AIR, MD.
HA-1355

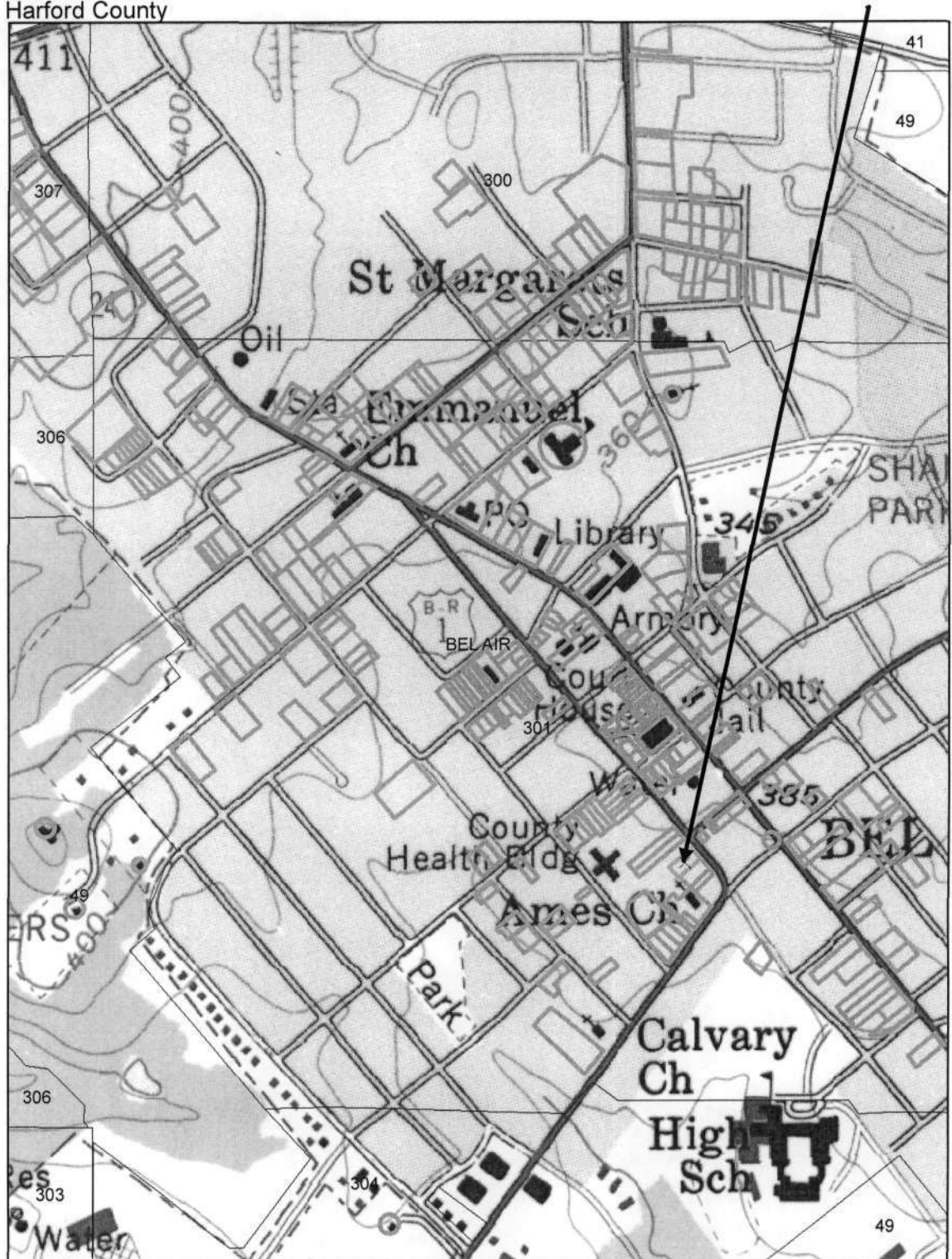
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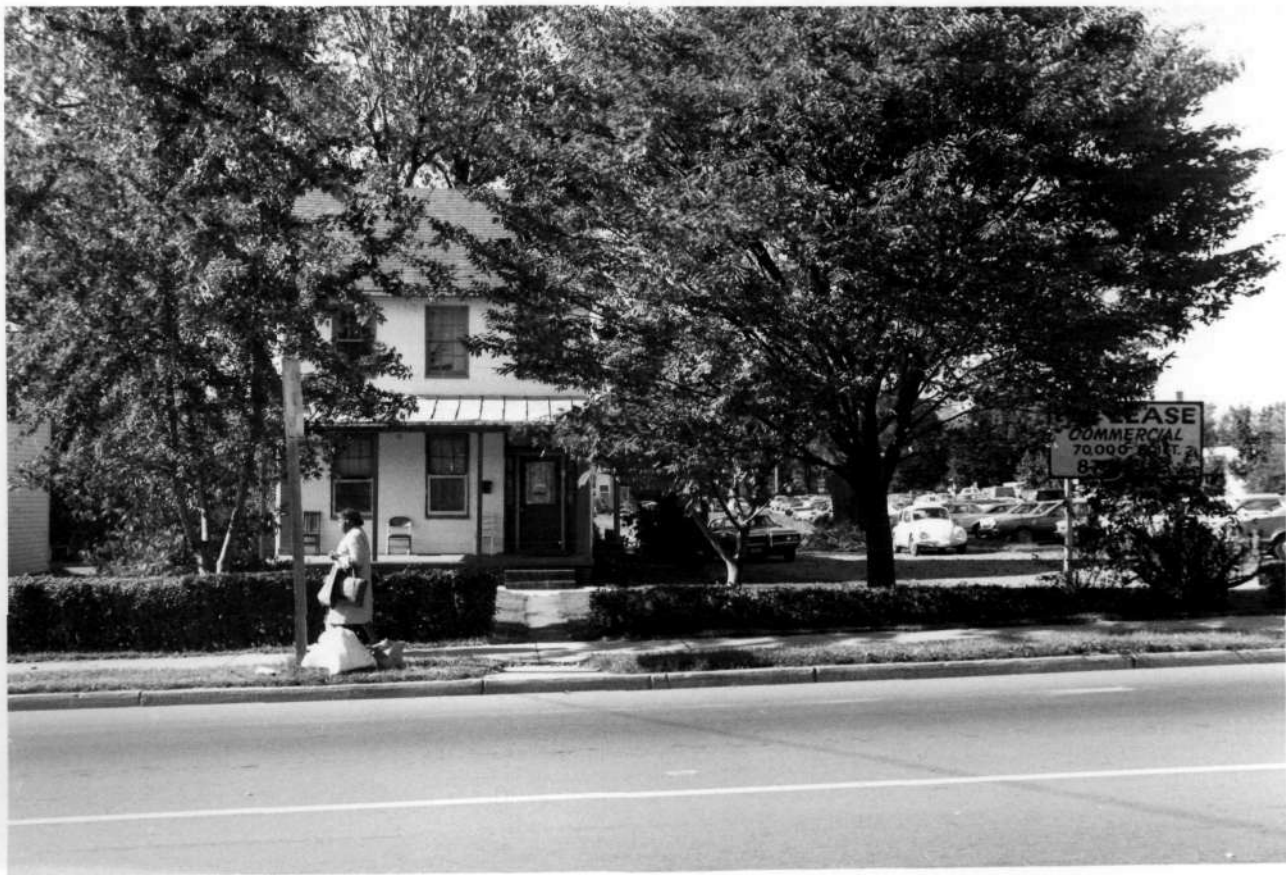


HA- 1355
Esley-Dean House
212 S. Bond St.
Bel Air
Sanborn Bel Air Aug. 1930-Sept. 1961
Harford County



HA-1355
Esley-Dean House, site
Bond Street
Bel Air
Bel Air Quad
Harford County





44-1355

Eslay-Dean House, 212 S. Bond, Bel Air
e elev

M. Larew, 1979



HA-1355

Esley-Dean House, 212 S. Bond, Bel Air.
e + n elev

M. Larew, 1979